CHAPTER VII

THE SECOND REVOLUTION

AFTER his tour in North China Dr. Sun returned to Shanghai, where we find him addressing a meeting of Kuomintang members on January loth, 1913. Shortly afterwards he paid a visit to Japan, ostensibly in connection with the activities of the Central Railway Corporation. He was enthusiastically received, was furnished with special trains in which to travel, and met a number of Japanese politicians and financiers. Little was said about his railway programme during the visit. One explanation thereof was that he was acting as Yuan Shih-kai's personal representative, and seeking to secure the Japanese Government's recognition of the Chinese Republic. Another, which was not made at the time, was that he was already conspiring to secure Japanese aid for Yuan's overthrow. His own naive explanation was that he was merely seeking to improve Sino-Japanese relations.

The day set for the opening of the new Chinese Parliament was now approaching. The opening ceremony was fixed for April 8,1913. No machinery existed for the elections of a bicameral Parliament throughout the vast territories of the Chinese Republic. But there was a pretence of an election,

and the new Senators and Representatives began to muster at Peking. In both Chambers the Kuoinintang, if it did not have an actual majority